

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 EB-07 /019 W

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R 201643Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 112

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOHN THOMAS FROM AMBASSADOR

DEPT ALSO PASS TREASURY MARSHA FIELD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, MO

SUBJECT: DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY

(A) 75 STATE 161259, (B) 75 RABAT 3867, (C) 75 STATE A-45003,
(C) RABAT 2750, (E) STATE 125701, (F) STATE 131949,
(G) RABAT 2924, (H) RABAT A-66, (I) STATE 174952,
(J) RABAT 4198, (K) STATE 199183, (L) STATE 214756,
(M) RABAT A-110

1. I AM SEEKING YOUR USUAL KIND INTERVENTION IN OUR
EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE LANGUAGE SERVICES' ASSISTANCE IN
CONFORMING THE FRENCH, ENGLISH, AND ARABIC TEXTS OF A
DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY WITH MOROCCO. GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE
OF THIS MATTER, I AM SETTING FORTH OUR PROBLEM IN PERHAPS
SOMEWHAT NUMBING DETAIL.

2. THE JANUARY 1, 1977 DATE IS APPROACHING FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY,
RENEGOTIATED BY THE EMBASSY IN CONFORMITY WITH THE
DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS. THE GOM AND US INITIALED
THE DRAFT OF THE CONVENTION FOR AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE
TAXATION ON NOVEMBER 4, 1972. AFTER THREE YEARS DELAY,
THE DEPARTMENT INFORMED US, BY 75 STATE 161259, THAT
WASHINGTON HAD FINALLY DECIDED TO APPROVE THE CONVENTION.

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BY RABAT 2750, I INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE GOM

WAS READY TO PROCEED WITH THE TREATY, TENTATIVE SIGNING
DATE BEING THE WEEK OF JUNE 7-11.

3. THE NEXT DELAY WAS DUE TO THE GOM'S SLOWNESS IN
PROVIDING FRENCH AND ARABIC TEXTS FOR COMPARISON WITH THE
INITIALLED ENGLISH PROTOCOL.

4. THE FRENCH TEXT WAS POUCHED TO THE DEPT IN JUNE.
AFTER FOUR MONTHS OF WAITING AND NUMEROUS REQUESTS I HAVE
YET TO RECEIVE THE SUGGESTED REVISIONS OF THE FRENCH TEXT
IN FRENCH FROM THE DEPT. REVISIONS REQUESTED
CONTAINED IN STATE 214716 WERE, ALAS, ALL IN ENGLISH AND
CONSEQUENTLY OF NO USE TO US IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREED
FRENCH LANGUAGE VERSION WITH THE GOM.

5. OUR DELAY IN RESPONDING TO REPEATED REQUESTS FOR AN
EARLY LISTING OF THE REQUESTED FRENCH LANGUAGE CHANGES
MEANT THAT THE ARABIC TEXT POUCHED OCTOBER 4 REPEATS
SEVERAL INCONSISTENCIES CONTAINED IN THE FRENCH TEXT
FROM WHICH THE MOROCCANS OBVIOUSLY WORKED. WE WILL
NOW BE FORCED TO NEGOTIATE BOTH FRENCH AND ARABIC
TEXTS AT LENGTH WITH THE GOM.

6. NEGOTIATION CANNOT EVEN BEGIN, HOWEVER, UNTIL WE GET
AT LEAST THE FRENCH REVISIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

7. PURSUANT TO STATE 174952 REQUESTING A CHANGE IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION DATE, THE TREATY IS DUE TO BECOME
EFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 1977. AFTER FOUR LONG YEARS I HOPE
WE CAN FINISH THIS KEY PROJECT FOR ONCE AND FOR ALL
BEFORE THE NEW YEAR.
ANDERSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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